



News You Can Use

For American Citizens in the Eastern Province

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Expansion of American Citizen Services Hours

U.S. Consulate General Dhahran is pleased to announce new expanded hours for American Citizen Services. Beginning February 3, 2010, American Citizen Services will be available 5 days a week. Our public hours are **Saturday—Wednesday from 1:00pm till 3:30 pm except the last Wednesday of every month**. Services continue to be appointment based. To make an appointment, go to the following website: https://evisaforms.state.gov/acs/make_default.asp

American Citizen Services include: passport services including extra visa pages, Consular Reports of Birth Abroad, notarial services, immigrant visa services, and applications for Social Security numbers. You do not need an appointment for extra visa pages or for police clearance letters (for Immigrant Visa applicants).

For a detailed description of the services provided please visit our website at dhahran.usconsulate.gov. Our website explains which documents/forms are needed, the fee schedule, and how to comply with our entry security procedures. Please email us at DhahranACS@state.gov if you are unable to find an answer to your question on our website.

Message from the Consul General

Greetings from the Consulate General! One of the basic missions of the U.S. Foreign Service is to look after the interests of U.S. citizens abroad. I take this responsibility very seriously. My Consular Section is the first line of contact for American citizens here in the Eastern Province. They are an exemplary team of professionals comprised of both American Foreign Service Officers and local staff of various nationalities. They are well trained and extremely hard working, and offer myriad services to American citizens.

Since the reinstatement of full visa services in May 2008 (after a 15-year hiatus), the Consular Section has been swamped with requests for visa appointments. To accom-



2010 Holiday Schedule

New Year's Day	1/2
MLK's Birthday	1/16
President's Day	2/13

(cont. from page 1) -modate this additional volume, and yet continue to provide the best service to the American citizens residing in our Consular District, the staff has been working both harder and smarter, employing technology wherever possible (e.g., an informative website, an automated appointment system for American Citizen Services and visa requests, automatic deposit of visa fees at a local bank, and enhanced FedEx delivery service).

We are always searching for ways to improve our responsiveness and our customer service. In addition, we are interested in your objective opinions and observations. This is where you can assist us. So please, let us hear from you. In doing so, we can fine tune our operation to better serve you – our top priority.

Tax Information

**Tax Day
is
April 15**

American Citizens and Legal Permanent Residents residing abroad can be subject to U.S. tax liability. The U.S. Consulate Dhahran provides a paper copy of the *IRS Publication 17: Your Federal Tax Income* to Americans living in the Eastern Province. Publication 17, as well as all IRS tax forms, can be downloaded from the IRS

website www.irs.gov. State Tax forms are not provided.

Consular officers are not tax experts and cannot advise citizens on tax matters. We encourage all Americans to read *Publication 54: Tax Guide for U.S. Citizens and Resident Aliens Abroad*.

Non-U.S. citizen IRS filers need to obtain a Taxpayer Identifica-

tion Number (TIN). Contact the Consular Section for more information.

Frequently Asked Questions

Should I obtain a U.S. Passport Card?

The U.S. Passport Card is convenient for travel in North America. The wallet-size U.S. Passport Card is a travel document that can be used to enter the United States from Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda at land border crossings or sea

ports-of-entry. **It cannot be used for international air travel.**

The U.S. Passport Card has the same period of validity as the U.S. Passport Book.

Why should I register? Travel registration is a free service provided by the U.S. government for American citizens living or traveling

abroad. It allows your local Consulate or Embassy to contact you in an emergency. It also allows citizens living abroad to receive routine travel and safety information. You can register at <https://travelregistration.state.gov> Please include your email address when you complete your Registration application.



Contact Us



Contact Information for the Consulate General of the United States of America Consular Section– Dhahran

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Website:

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American Citizen Services:

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Immigrant Visas:

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